(b) As per the latest analysis for the year 2005-06, the average cost of carrying a passenger including suburban passengers per kilometre is 35 paise. Against this, the corresponding realization per passenger kilometre is 2.5 paise.

(c) and (d) Over the years, Railways have been increasing the number of coaches upto 24 *per train in popular and well patronized trains to generate additional capacity to carry more* passengers per train resulting in reduction in cost of carrying a passenger. During 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08 the number of additional coaches attached to different trains were 544, 745 and 876 respectively. During 2008-09 also augmentation of important and well patronized trains is proposed to be done subject to operational feasibility and availability of *coaches. Accordingly, it is proposed to augment about 50 pairs of Mail/Express trains to* 23/24 coaches per train. The enhancement of passenger carrying capacity of a train by way of augmentation of the load to 23/24 coaches and provision of additional seats/berths per coach would result in a higher yield per train and lower the unit cost per passenger and would enable us to further strive for achieving break-even without raising fares.

Proposal for electrification of railway lines

1674. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways has received proposals from various State Governments regarding electrification of railways lines;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Recently the following proposals for electrification of railway tracks have been recommended by various State Governments and their present status is as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the proposed section(s)	State Government	Status
1.	Itarsi-Allahabad	Madhya Pradesh	Under examination.
2.	Talcher-Cuttack-Paradeep	Orissa	Work is in Progress.
3.	Bina-Kota	Rajasthan	Work is in Progress.
4.	Jaipur-Sawai Madhopur	Rajasthan	Not viable on present volumes of traffic.
5.	Ratlam-Neemuch-Chittorgarh	Rajasthan	Not viable on present volumes of traffic.
6.	DC/AC Conversion work at Kasara-Titawala section	Maharashtra	Completed.
7.	Delhi-Rohtak	Haryana	Detailed estimate has been sanctioned and preliminary works are being taken up for electrification.
8.	Laksar-Rishikesh/Dehradun	Uttarakhand	Not viable on present volumes of traffic.
9.	Najibabad-Kotdwar/ Moradabad-Kashipur-Ram Nagar/Kashipur-Lalkuan & Rampur-Lal Kuan-Kathgodam	Uttarakhand	Not viable on present volumes of traffic.

Sl. No.	Name of the proposed section(s)	State Government	Status
10.	Daitari-Banspani	Orissa	Work is in progress.
11.	Villupuram-*Tiruchirappalli-Madurai*	Tamil Nadu	Work is in progress.
12.	Madurai-Tuticorin	Tamil Nadu	Under examination.
13.	Madurai-Nagercoil	Tamil Nadu	Under examination.
14.	Shoranur-Mangalore	Kerala	Under examination.

Construction of rail track from Madhubani to Sitamarhi

†1675. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that survey work of construction of rail-tracks from Madhubani to Sitamarhi and *via* Jaynagar to Laukha upto Mahadev Math under East-Central Railway has been completed; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the construction work of this line would start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, work of Sitamarhi-Nirmali new broad gauge rail line (188 km.) *via* Jaynagar, Laukha Bazar at a cost of Rs. 678.62 crore has been proposed in Budget 2008-09. Another survey of Madhubani-Sitamarhi-Bairgania (163 km) new broad gauge rail line is under progress. The preliminary work of Sitamarhi-Nirmali rail line would be taken up once Budget is passed by the Parliament.

Railway crossings

1676. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of manned and unmanned railway crossings in the country, separately, State-wise and zone-wise;

(b) the number of railway accidents that have occurred during the last three years at such level crossings;

(c) whether many of these accidents have occurred due to the unmanned level crossings;

(d) if so, the steps being taken to prevent the recurrence of such accidents and to convert unmanned level crossings to manned level crossings;

(e) whether it is proposed to entrust the unmanned level crossings to private sector; and

(f) if so, the details thereof alongwith terms and references thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) As on 01.04.2007, there were 16,778 manned and 17,966 unmanned level crossings (Excluding 'D' Class cattle crossings and canal crossings) in the country. State-wise and Zone-wise number is given in the Statement (*see* below).

(b) The number of railway accidents that have occurred at level crossings during the last three years is as under:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.